

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of extracting a lipidic active principle from a solid material coming from a nacreous mollusk, the method comprising ~~being characterized in that it comprises~~ the steps of grinding the nacre into a fine powder, of putting the powder into contact with a lipid solvent, of separating the solvent, and of extracting the lipid active principle by evaporating the solvent.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the nacre is ground to a powder having a mean grain size of less than 20 μm .

Claim 3 (currently amended): The A method of extracting lipids according to claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the nacre is ground to a powder having a mean grain size of about 8 μm .

Claim 4 (currently amended): The A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the nacre comes from oysters of the genus *Pinctada* species *margaritifera*.